



This correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal
Service as Express Mail EV 332109890 US in an envelope addressed to:

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE –
EXAMINING GROUP 1638**

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 085761-000510US
Client Ref. No.: AR009US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Kazutoshi Okuno, et al.

Application No.: 09/560,780

Filed: April 28, 2000

For: METHOD FOR IDENTIFYING
FIELD RESISTANCE OF RICE TO
RICE BLAST

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No. 5157

Examiner: A. Kubelik

Technology Center/Art Unit: 1638

PETITION FOR SUSPENSION OF
ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.103(a)

MAR 01 2004

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicant respectfully petitions for a suspension of action under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(a) for the above referenced application. This petition accompanies a response to the Office Action mailed October 21, 2003. Applicant requests a six month suspension of action.

Statement of reasons supporting petition for suspension

In the above-referenced Office Action, the Examiner indicated that a deposit according to the requirements of the Budapest Treaty must be made to satisfy the

02/25/2004 CCHAU1 00000089 201430 09560780

03 FC:1460 130.00 DA

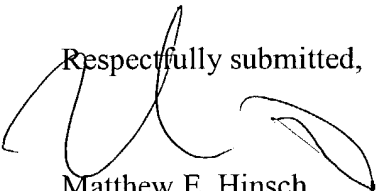
enablement requirement for claims 1, 4, and 7. Applicant will need at least 6 months to produce the required number of seeds of each of the parental strains.

Applicants authorize payment of the fee set forth under 37 CFR § 1.17(h) in the accompanying fee transmittal, per the requirements of 37 CFR 1.103(a)(2).

CONCLUSION

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at (415) 576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,



Matthew E. Hinsch
Reg. No. 47,651

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: (415) 576-0200
Fax: (415) 576-0300
MEH